

**STATE OF MONTANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 10-2017**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER DECLARING A DISASTER TO EXIST
IN THE STATE OF MONTANA**

WHEREAS, Montana is experiencing one of the worst fire seasons in its history, with dozens of large wildfires burning across the state and dozens of additional wildfire starts reported this week;

WHEREAS, these fires and the risk of new fires create the imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, which timely action can avert or minimize;

WHEREAS, persistent drought, high winds, and high temperatures pose an imminent threat that new wildfires may start and that existing fires may grow;

WHEREAS, conditions in several areas of Montana are the driest on record, in some cases drier than conditions in the 1930s;

WHEREAS, additional state resources continue to be needed to reinforce Montana's initial and extended attack capabilities, and to support the reduction of large wildfires when they occur;

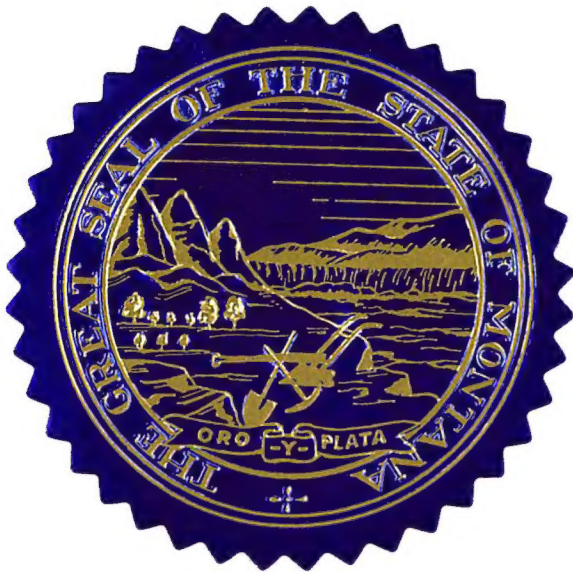
WHEREAS, the suspension of certain regulatory requirements will assist incident commanders in moving heavy equipment to attack wildfire activity aggressively;

WHEREAS, the Montana National Guard has substantial capabilities to assist existing local, state, and federal responders in wildfire fighting efforts; and

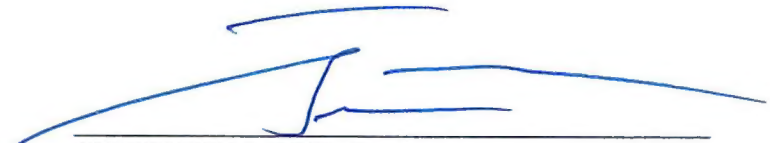
WHEREAS, under these conditions, pursuant to §§ 10-3-303, 10-3-311, and 10-3-312, MCA, the Governor may mobilize state resources, including the Montana National Guard, to protect life, health, and property and may expend funds to meet contingencies and needs that may arise from the disaster.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVE BULLOCK, Governor of the State of Montana, by virtue of the authority vested in me pursuant to the Montana Constitution, Title 10, Chapter 3, MCA, and other applicable laws of the State of Montana, do hereby declare under § 10-3-303, MCA, that a disaster exists in the State of Montana as defined in § 10-3-103(4), MCA.

This Order is effective September 2, 2017.




GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of
the State of Montana this 1st day of
September, 2017.



STEVE BULLOCK, Governor

ATTEST:



COREY STAPLETON, Secretary of State
BY: JEFFREY HINDSON, DEPUTY